

Amendments to the Specification:

Please correct the specification as follows:

In the title, add at the end thereof --**AMONG USERS HAVING HETEROGENEOUS PROTOCOLS**--

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A system for facilitating the exchange of speech recognition and transcription among users, the system comprising:

at least one system transaction manager adapted to receive a speech information request from at least one of the users employing a first system protocol, and configured to route a response to one or more of the users employing a second system protocol that may be the same as or different than the first system protocol, the response comprised of a formatted transcription of formatted spoken text; and

at least one speech recognition and transcription engine communicating with the system transaction manager, the speech recognition and transcription engine configured to receive the speech information request from the system transaction manager, to generate a response to the speech information request, and to transmit the response to the system transaction manager.

2. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the system transaction manager utilizes a uniform system protocol for handling the speech information request and the response.

3. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the system transaction manager is adapted to receive the speech information request from a subscriber.

4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the speech information request comprises formatted spoken text.

5. (Previously presented) The system of claim 4 wherein the formatted spoken text is generated speech information to be transcribed and routed to the one or more users of the system.

6. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the speech information request comprises previously transcribed formatted spoken text.

7. (Previously presented) The system of claim 6 wherein the previously transcribed formatted spoken text includes previously transcribed speech.

8. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a first user application service adapter, the first user application service adapter communicating with the at least one of the users that employ the first system protocol and with the system transaction manager.